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st slip it into the exhaust pipe of ur friend's car then watch him nen he starts the engine! The howis d noises will make him think the ster's about to blow up or fall apart while you roar with laughter. F183

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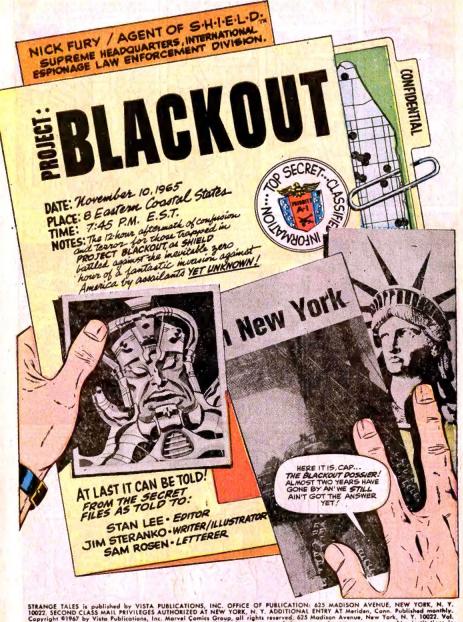
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"Suddenly, Without Warning . The Whole Blasted Room Rocked, as a Blindin' Bolt of Energy Tore The Bolt occupants into a twisted MASS OF RUBBLE!"











SEEMED TO BE ALL RIGHT ... WHEN .. "



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

MARVEL BULLPEN BULLETINS . MARVEL BULLPEN BULLETINS . MARVEL BULLPEN BULLETINS AWE-INSPIRING ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR YOU TO YAWN WITH!

ITEM! The time has come! 'Tis the merry | month of June, and that means the first now on sale! Even as you read these spinesingling words, the great, action-packed SGT, FURY AND HIS HOWLING COMMAN-DOS SPECIAL has just hit the newsstands with the shattering impact of a B-52 bomb load! When you realize that it features Nick Fury, in the present, as the full chickencolonel Director of Shield, reuniting his Howlers for a special mission in Viet Nam, you'll know why we urge you to get your copy TODAY! This one's not gonne be around long! And, in case we forgot to tell you-every story, every feature in this year's king-size sensation is ALL-NEW-ALL-ORIGINAL! Then, just to prove how big-hearted we are, we've also issued a new, queen-sized MILLIE THE MODEL SPE-CIAL, for your sisters, gal friends, and various other fun-and-fashion buffs! We know you'll be all shook-up to learn that it too. is on sale now! And, next month, whatever else you do, don't fail to grab the block-bustin' DAREDEVIL SPECIAL and the equally-great AVENGERS SPECIAL! They're both ALL-NEW with ALL-ORIGINAL stories and features—as are the indescribably wonderful FANTASTIC FOUR and SPIDER-MAN SPECIALS which we're bestowing upon you in the following month! Watch these pages for the next two issues to get a more complete rundown on what DD, the AVENGERS, SPIDEY, and the ever-lovin' FF will contain-'cause we're the kinda guys who'll TELL you!

ITEM! We just received a letter that may be of interest to all you Believers who like to save your Marvel mags-so we'll pass it along right now-

Dear Stan: I have trouble with pages that come loose from too much handling, and have found a way to correct this. Just open the staples and put a piece of transparent tape on the outside cover and in the exact center of the book. Then close the staples again. it preserves the magazine no matter how many times it's read. No more lost pages!-Sincerely, Bud Cavadini, (Cashton, Wisc, 54619).

Many thanks, Bud oi' boy! But just tell us one thing-is it true you're a manufacturer of transparent tape?

ITEM! Once again the time-differential gap is enough to drive us all batty! Here's why -as we write these deathless phrases, we're just about to send the first ish of our nutty new satire mag BRAND ECHH to the printer. But, by the time you READ this page, ish #2 is already on sale! We won't receive any mail from you about the mag for another couple of months (our time), but you're probably starting to flood us with your capricious criticism already (your time)!! Anyway, all we're trying to say iswhatever you do, don't dare miss our newest mag-the book that's been called the biggest gamble Marvel-or anyone elseever attempted! If it isn't a sell-out, everyone we know (including the REAL Brand Echhs) will be saying "We told you sol" And you KNOW how we hate to fall on our faces! (Especially when Irving Forbush is looking!)

ITEM: Speaking of Honest Irv, your letters have been running about a zillion-to-one in favor of us never showing what he looks like! And we don't mind telling you what a relief that is! After all, how do you present a portrait of a naturally neurotic non-en-tity? (Sounds like a new idea for a no-prize contest, huh?)

Let's meet 26 more Michael Rossiter M.M.M.S. members! Steve Rayburn Paducah, Ky.

Robert Reynolds Alvacokia. Jim Rafferty Lus Vegas, Nevada Mike Rudeen Picayune, Miss. Susan Rudeen Picayune, Miss.

Raudy Reed Robert Neeley Greg Chi San Francisco, Calif. Delwein, Iowa Theima Reed Margate, N. J. Donie Ramsey E. Ridge, N. H.

Charles Richardson Stockton, Calif. Bill Hunter Edmonds, Wash. Harris Nudelman Montreal, Que.

Michael Ryan Indianapolis, Ind. Bill Oberg Park Forest, Iil. Henry H. Rainer Bradenton, Fiz. Sen Rice Mexico, Mexico

James Rowan Colin Ridge! Grand Rapids, Mich. Natalbany, La Felix Rodriguez N. Y., N. Y. Dave Neumann Midland, Mich. Nicholas Rezza New Orleans, La.

Chuck Robinson Charleston, W. Va. Vincent Richards Colliers, W. Va. Dell Rowntree Fort Thomas, Ky.

ITEM! Well, looky here! Another which you may be interested in-

Dear Stan: You are making a drastic mistake. Not being content to produce the best-written and best-drawn comics in America, you're allowing Marvel to turn into a fad-due to the tons of merchandise bearing your characters which is on sale all over. If this isn't stopped, Marvel may suffer the fate of all other fads-it may rise in a burst of glory and then fade out until, months from now, Marvel is naught but a memory. Your mags are great enough to stand on their own merit without all the other stuff. Please! I was here when The Marvel Age of Comics began, but I don't want to be here when it ends!-PFC Bruce Long, C-2-1, Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri,

Bruce, buddy-we really appreciate your concern, but we have a feeling the end isn't quite in sight yet. One thing you must have noticed-no matter what novelties and nick-nacks are produced bearing the Marvel imprint-and we think they're all kinda swell-it doesn't in any way affect the stories or artwork in our award-winning mags. For the Merry Ones who enjoy model kits of our characters-or records-or games-or sweatshirts-or coloring books or almost anything you can name, we've got 'em in abundance. But, for those who are interested solely in the Marvel mags themselves, we're working as hard as ever -and as enthusiastically as ever-to produce the best darned illustrated epics the world has ever seen! Isn't that really all that counts? So long as we can continue turning out the type of thrillers our rollickin' readers enjoy, there's no reason for anyone to become a Marvel dropout! And, the day we start to slip-the day we start giving you less than our best, then we deserve whatever happens! Fair enough?

STAN'S SOAPBOXI

We've said it before-and we've gotta say it again! We love your letters! It's a real kick hearing from you! We're overwhelmingly touched by the interest you show and the time you spend writing to us-but please, PUH-LEESE, make your letters shorter! We wouldn't bother asking you this if not for the fact that we honestly read each and every communication you send us-and the mail gets heavier each month! (Which is great! It shows that you're all hangin' loose!) But, the more mail we get, the less time we get to read it. So, from the bottom of our hearts to the top of our weary little bloodshot eyeballs, we beg you, we beseech you-keep your letters down to just one page or less! The notepaper manufacturers may not like it, but it just may allow us a little time to write a story or two between applying our eye-drops! Okay? Thanks, tiger-we knew you'd understand!

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

Marvel-ous Mags on Sale Right Now! BRAND ECHH #2: Nuttier and more exciting than ever! Spidey-Man vs. Gnatman and Rotten! Knock Furious, Agent of Sheesh, vs. Blunder Agents! Ironed-Man vs. Magnut, Robot-Biter! You've never seen anything like it!

FANTASTIC FOUR #66: Rarely have you thrilled to a more fascinating mystery than the one in store for you now! The Thing's

sightless girl friend captured and brought to the strangest place on earth-for what mind-staggering purpose? A real shocker SPIDER-MAN #52: The unbelievable development in the battle with the Kingoln is too daring, too dramatic, too dazzlingly different to be described in this columni It's called "Death Of A Hero!" and the title's no put-onl it's really gonna rock youl AVENGERS #43: See Hercules and Hawkeye fighting behind the Bamboo Curtaint See Quicksilver develop a new, startling super power! See the introduction of the avil Red Guardian! See action as only Marvel can dish it out!

X-MEN #35: When our magnificent mutants get a guest star, we don't kid around! This one features none other than Spider-Man-battling desperately against the savage fury of the X-Men! It's dynamite!

DAREDEVIL #31: Possibly the most sensational of all DD's adventurest imagine the Man Without Fear minus his supersenses-forced to battle his most deadly foes while he's actually sightless! It's Daredevil's most fateful moment—and when you see the ending—HOOO BOY!

THOR #143: Get set for sheer magnificence as Balder the Brave and the stunning Sif are pursued to earth by the evil Enchanters—the only arch-foes powerful enough to defy Thor and Odin at the same time! So be it!

SUSPENSE #93: Selleron Man suffer his greatest defeat-at the hands of a giant whose true identity will knock you for a loop! As for Captain America, has he fi-nally invaded the lair of A.I.M. to rescue SHIELD'S loveliest agent-only to lose her forever?

ASTONISH #95: Wait'll you meet the marciless menace from Skull Island as he tackles Sub-Mariner with his invincible super-submarinel But what of the Hulk? How can he face the threat of a deadly madman's allen weapon when he himself is helpless on the lost planet?

SGT. FURY #45: In one of the most offbeat war sagas of all time, the hard-hitting Howlers rescue an important General's son only to be brought to the brink of disaster by ... THE WAR LOVER, 'Nuff Said! FANTASY MASTERPIECES #10: This is the Golden-Age gas everyone's been demanding-the All-Winners Squad, featuring Captain America, the Human Torch, Sub-Mariner, Miss America, and the Whizzer-in a 43-page action epic destined to become the most talked-about reprint of the decadel

MARVEL TALES #10: Spidey vs. Kraven the Hunter; Thor battling it out with Loki; the Human Torch fighting for his life against the Painter of a Thousand Perils -the most frenzied fight card since the opening of Madison Square Gardent Oh, and just to top it off, your big-hearted Bullpen's tossed in another scintillating story by the wonderfully winsome Waspi MARVEL COLLECTORS' ITEM CLASSICS #10: The frankly fabulous F.F .- our own Jolly Green Giant-the Incomparable Iron Man-and the warily wondrous Watcher!

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—C. H., Lanett, Ala.
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P. M., Port Huron, Mich. Thank you for creating such an exciting yet realistic game and putting a shine to what might have been a boring summer.

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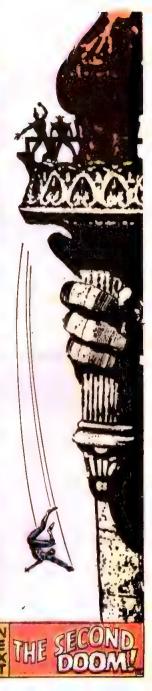


































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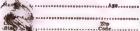
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SEND YOUR LETTERS TO: THE MARVEL COMICS GROUP 2nd FLOOR 625 MADISON AVE **NEW YORK, N. Y. 10032**

Dear Stan, Zounds! At last the unutterable spell of apathy cast upon my pen these many cycles of time has been dispersed! Only an issue such as STRANGE TALES #157 could have accomplished such a feat, "Crisis" is overwhelmingly the greatest Shield tale ever told, and is a testament to the genius of Jim Steranko. The fantastic battle scenes on pages , 7, 10, 11, and 12 combined with the incredible introduction of such weapons as the outstanding Hallucination Cube and the demoniacal Satan Claw made the story simply marvel-ous. To top off the issue Dr. Strange's battle with Zom was just out of sight! Even though I'm still recovering from the magnificent Bill Everett's withdrawal, mystical Marie Severin gets better every ish. Panels 2 and 4 on page 3, panel 5 on page 2, and pages 1, 7, 9, and 10 are great. I fear words fail me when trying to describe Stan's script. Thank you all for a wonderful job. So, till the Living Tribunal gets sent up the river for jury tampering, Nick Fishelson, 1630 Burbank Rd. Make Mine Marvell Wooster, Ohio 44691

It'll be a pleasure, Nicky. We got a boot out of your liltin' letter with its lavish praise-except for one little thing. You said that words fail you when trying to describe Stan's script. Well, the thing that's got us pacing the floor is-did you mean it's too good to describeor so bad you can't say it? (Who says this isn't the Marvel Age of Chronic Insecurity!)



I just couldn't restrain myself from expressing my congratulations to you for the astonishing tale of Doctor Strange in issue #157. The story itself was masterfully written and plotted. Marie Severin's art was the utmost

contribution in portraying the story. Her every detail gave depth to the characters in each panel. Combining the unfortunate end of the Ancient One, the addition of a new and mysterious menace, and the destruction of the Cloak of Levitation, all in one yarn, was a stroke of genius. Truly, this is the best issue I have ever read!

Charles Barsjas, 117 No, Breed St.

Los Angeles, Calif.

Aww, we'll bet you say that about all great master-pieces, Charlie! But, just hang loose and see the dra-matic developments waiting for you in the ishes to come—honest to Aunt Petunia, it's enough to make a True Believer out of Dormammu himself—whoever he is!

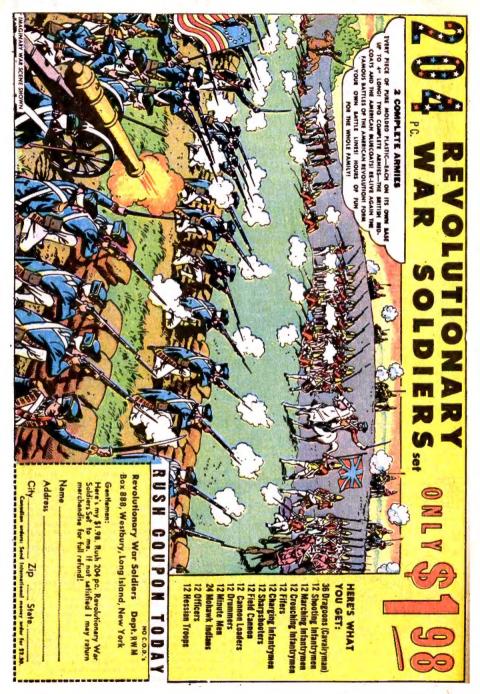
Dear Stan,

I was really beginning to lose my respect for Marvel. Nick Fury, Agent of Shield, was getting trite and Dr. Strange was becoming downright ridiculous. Then I saw issue #156 on the newsstand and was attracted to it as a result of its brilliant cover. After bringing it home and a result of its pinning cover. After oringing it nome and flipping thru it, I was stunned. The writing has greatly improved, but the major improvement is the art. It is refreshing to see a couple of artists with a definite style. Jim Steranko does a good deal of experimenting, I suspect. His work shows a great deal of imagination and polish. The two page spread unveiling of the Supreme Hydra was magnificent. Marie Severin is no slouch either. If you ever let go of these two, I will personally throttle you in your sleep!!

Marty Kracalit, 1680 Ash St. Des Plaines, Ill. 60018

Then we haven't a thing to worry about, Mart - with a schedule like ours, who gets time to sleep? But, rest easy, faithful one - we've no intention of letting our newest, nutriest, and nicest Bullpeners escape into that cold, cruel world outside! However, if there's anyone out there who can find a home for Irving Forbush—!

NEXT ISH: Everybody's favorite director of SHIELD gets swept into the most savage struggle of his life-against a sardonically sinister surprise villain we quarantee will uproot your stump! Believe us, SHIELD-supporters, this one you can't afford to missi But, if you think we're gonna stop there, go back to your Brand Echh primer—'cause ol' Dec Strange isn't exactly gonna be playing possum! As the last few grains of the Sands of Death trickle thru the Living Tribunal's hour glass, the Master of the Mystic Arts desperately dashes into the World of the Million Parils in a fateful final attempt to save the earth from impending doom! Sheesh—with all that going for us, we don't even have to ask if this is any way to run a comic mag!





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